# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

Rainer Ohlinger et al.

**FOR** 

METHOD FOR PREPARATION OF A

POLYOLEFIN FOIL AND ITS UTILIZATION

SERIAL NO.

Unknown

**FILED** 

Herewith

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:

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Cleveland, Ohio 44114-2518

April 9, 2001

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and substantive examination of the above-referenced patent application, Applicants respectfully request amendment of the application as follows. A clean copy of the claims appears below and a marked-up version is set forth as an Appendix.

## IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1. (Amended) Method for the preparation of an embossed foil from a mass including non-interlaced polyolefins and optional additives, the method comprising treating said mass with electron beams and achieving a grained foil with a density of approximately 0.7 to 1.2 g/cm³ and deep drawing the grained foil.
- 3. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein an interlacing auxiliary is included in the mass.
- 4. (Amended) Method according to Claim 3, wherein trimethylpropantriacrylate is selected as interlacing auxiliary.

- 5. (Amended) Method according to claim 3 wherein trimethylolpropantriacrylate is employed in a quantity of up to 20% by weight in proportion to the contents of the mass of non-interlaced polyolefins.
- 6. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein a stabilizer is included in the mass.
- 7. (Amended) Method according to Claim 6, wherein stabilizers in the mass comprise phenol derivatives, lactones, phosphites and/or sterically inhibited amines in a quantity of up to approximately 5% by weight.
- 8. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the electron beam treated foil has a thickness of approximately 0.2 to 2.0.
- 9. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the treatment with electron beams is effected at a beam dosis of approximately 10 to 500 kJ/m<sup>2</sup>.
- 10. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the treatment of the foil with electron beams is effected to such extent that a gel contents of approximately 5 to 80% appears in the radiated foil.
- 11. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the radiated foil is embossed.
- 12. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the radiated foil is laminated to form a composite structure.
- 13. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the radiated foil or the composite structure containing same is deep drawn to a shaped body.
- 14. (Amended) Method according to Claim 13, wherein the deep drawn shaped body is utilized is interior lining of motor vehicles, in particular as dashboard foil.

- 15. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the foil obtained in the traditional manner is further processed according to an embossing and/or laminating process, prior to treatment with electron beams.
- 16. (New) Method according to claim 8 wherein the electron beam treated foil has a thickness of approximately 0.4 to 1.4 mm.

#### Remarks

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments be entered prior to substantive examination of the application. The subject amendments are created to place the application in accord with traditional U.S. practice.

Respectfully submitted,

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING** 

! hereby certify that this PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL in an envelope numbered EL 852783322 US addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on Mywl 9 2001.

#### **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

- 1. (Amended) Method for the preparation of an embossed foil from a mass [containing] <u>including</u> non-interlaced polyolefins and [possibly additional] <u>optional</u> additives, [whereby the obtained foil is treated with electron beams, characterized in that the foil obtained in the traditional manner for achieving grain stability suitable for deep drawing is treated] <u>the method comprising treating said mass</u> with electron beams and <u>achieving a grained foil</u> [and the grained foil is deep drawn] with a density of approximately 0.7 to 1.2 g/cm<sup>3</sup> <u>and deep drawing the grained foil</u>.
- (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 or 2, characterized in that] <u>claim 1 wherein</u> an interlacing auxiliary is included in the mass.
- 4. (Amended) Method according to Claim 3, [characterized in that] wherein trimethylpropantriacrylate is selected as interlacing auxiliary.
- 5. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 3 or 4, characterized in that] <u>claim 3 wherein</u> trimethylolpropantriacrylate is employed in a quantity of up to 20% by weight in proportion to the contents of the mass of non-interlaced polyolefins.
- 6. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 5, characterized in that] <u>claim 1 wherein</u> a stabilizer is included in the mass.
- 7. (Amended) Method according to Claim 6, [characterized in that by way of] wherein stabilizers in the mass [are employed] comprise phenol derivatives, lactones, phosphites and/or sterically inhibited amines in a quantity of up to approximately 5% by weight.
- 8. (Amended) Method according to [at least of the Claims 1-7, characterized in that] <u>claim 1 wherein</u> the [radiated] <u>electron beam treated</u> foil has a thickness of approximately 0.2 to 2.0[, in particular approximately 0.4 to 1.4 mm].

- 9. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 8, characterized in that] <u>claim 1 wherein</u> the treatment with electron beams is effected at a beam dosis of approximately 10 to 500 kJ/m².
- 10. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 9, characterized in that] <u>claim 1 wherein</u> the treatment of the foil with electron beams is effected to such extent that a gel contents of approximately 5 to 80% appears in the radiated foil.
- 11. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 10, characterized in that] <u>claim 1 wherein</u> the radiated foil is embossed.
- 12. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 11, characterized in that] <u>claim 1 wherein</u> the radiated foil is laminated to form a composite structure.
- 13. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 12, characterized in that] <u>claim 1 wherein</u> the radiated foil or the composite structure containing same is deep drawn to a shaped body.
- 14. (Amended) Method according to Claim 13, [characterized in that] wherein the deep drawn shaped body is utilized is interior lining of motor vehicles, in particular as dashboard foil.
- 15. (Amended) Method according to [at least one of Claims 1 to 10, characterized in that] <u>claim 1 wherein</u> the foil obtained in the traditional manner is further processed according to an embossing and/or laminating process, prior to treatment with electron beams.
- 16. (New) Method according to claim 8 wherein the electron beam treated foil has a thickness of approximately 0.4 to 1.4 mm.